

CLAIMS LISTING

Claim 1: (currently amended) A respiratory mask, comprising:

an upper portion;
a bottom portion;
a plurality of accordion folds extending across a width of the mask between the upper portion and the bottom portion; and
an adjustment member attached at the bottom portion of the mask,
wherein the accordion folds are adjustable compressible along a length of the mask from an open position to a closed compressed position by adjustment of the adjustment member that maintains the folds in the closed compressed position to reduce a vertical size of the mask.

Claim 2: (original) The mask of claim 1, wherein the accordion folds are adjustable from an open position for a first mask size to a closed position for a second mask size.

Claim 3: (original) The mask of claim 1, further comprising:

a deformable strap bridging the upper portion of the mask, wherein the deformable strap is formed of bendable metal and is bendable to conform to the contours of a patient's nose to hold the mask in place.

Claim 4: (original) The mask of claim 1, wherein the accordion folds are formed by one or more ribs connected by a flexible material.

Claim 5: (original) The mask of claim 1, wherein the accordion folds are formed integrally with the upper and bottom portions of the mask.

Claim 6: (original) The mask of claim 1, wherein the adjustment member comprises:

a first bracket attached to the mask; and
a second bracket movably engaged with the first bracket, wherein relative movement between the first and second brackets provides adjustment of the length of the mask.

Claim 7: (original) The mask of claim 6, wherein:

the first bracket comprises at least one adjustment arm having a plurality of teeth; and
the second bracket comprises at least one locking member for engaging the teeth on the adjustment arm.

Claim 8: (original) The mask of claim 1, wherein the adjustment member comprises:

one of a button and snap arrangement, a hook and loop fastener arrangement, and a band adjustment arrangement.

Claim 9: (original) The mask of claim 1, wherein the mask is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of: thermoplastic resins, polyurethane resins, poly(vinyl chloride), polypropylene, polystyrene and polyethylene.

Claim 10: (original) The mask of claim 1, further comprising:

at least one exhaust port or a plurality of apertures disposed in the upper portion of the mask.

Claim 11: (original) The mask of claim 10, further comprising:

a tubular inlet disposed at the bottom of the upper portion of the mask.

Claim 12: (original) The mask of claim 1, wherein the upper portion, the bottom portion and the accordion folds comprise a continuous piece of material.

Claim 13: (original) The mask of claim 12, wherein the continuous piece of material forming the upper and bottom portions and the accordion folds is of substantially constant thickness.

Claim 14: (currently amended) A method of adjusting a respiratory mask, comprising:

providing a mask comprising an upper portion, a bottom portion, and a plurality of accordion folds extending across a width of the mask between the upper portion and the bottom portion; and

adjusting an adjustment member to open or close the folds and ~~obtain~~ maintain the
accordion folds in a desired unfolded or folded position so as to obtain a desired length along the
vertical extent of the mask.

Claim 15: (original) The method of claim 14, wherein adjusting the adjustment member comprises:

selectively engaging at least one locking member with a plurality of teeth.

Claim 16: (original) The method of claim 14, wherein adjusting the adjustment member comprises:

adjusting one of a button and snap arrangement, a hook and loop fastener arrangement, and a band adjustment arrangement.

Claim 17: (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the accordion folds comprise one or more ribs connected by a flexible material.

Claim 18: (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the upper portion, the bottom portion and the accordion folds comprise a continuous piece of material of substantially constant thickness.

Claim 19: (original) A respiratory mask, comprising:

an upper portion;

a bottom portion;

an adjustable portion disposed between the upper portion and the bottom portion; and

an adjustment member attached at the bottom portion of the mask, the adjustment member comprising at least one locking member and a plurality of teeth selectively engageable with the at least one locking member,

wherein the adjustable portion is adjustable along a length of the mask by adjustment of the adjustment member.

Claim 20: (original) The mask of claim 19, wherein the adjustment member further comprises:
a first bracket attached to the mask and including an adjustment arm onto which is
disposed the plurality of teeth; and

a second bracket movably engaged with the adjustment arm, the at least one locking
member being disposed on the second bracket,

wherein relative movement between the first and second brackets provides adjustment of
the length of the mask.

Claim 21: (original) The mask of claim 19, wherein the adjustable portion comprises:
a plurality of accordion folds.

Claim 22: (original) The mask of claim 19, wherein the upper portion, the bottom portion and
the adjustable portion comprise a continuous piece of material.

Claim 23: (original) The mask of claim 22, wherein the continuous piece of material forming
the upper and bottom portions and the adjustable portion is of substantially constant thickness.